

LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1915.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1915.

BIRTHS.

During 1915 the births registered in the district numbered 276 (including 1 transferred to the district), giving an annual birth rate of 26·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population. Of these 137 were Males and 139 Females. Included in the above are 5 illegitimate births, 2 Males and 3 Females. The births were distributed in the following districts :—

			Males.		Females.
Lowton	...	...	50	...	54
Kenyon	...	...	2	...	1
Astley	...	...	57	...	62
Culcheth	...	...	28	...	21
Transferred In	...	...	0	...	1

DEATHS.

The total deaths registered in the district during the same period numbered 146, 139 being certified and 7 uncertified. The deaths transferred into the district of residents whose deaths occurred outside the district numbered 18. The deaths of non-

residents registered in the district numbered 5, giving a nett total of 159 deaths. The annual rate of deaths registered in the district is 14·07 per 1,000, and the nett death rate 15·32 per 1,000. Of the nett deaths, 86 were Males and 73 Females. The deaths occurred in the following districts :—

			Males.		Females.
Lowton	...	...	35	...	24
Kenyon	...	...	2	...	1
Astley	...	...	22	...	21
Culcheth	...	...	17	...	19
Transferred In	...		10	...	8
Transferred Out	...		3	...	2

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The deaths registered from the seven principal zymotic diseases numbered 33, giving an annual zymotic rate of 3·19 per 1,000. They were as follows:—Smallpox, 0; Measles, 21; Scarlet Fever, 1; Whooping Cough, 1; Diphtheria and Membraneous Croup, 3; Enteric Fever, 1; Diarrhœa, 6. Total, 33.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 33, including two illegitimates, and this gives an infant mortality of 1·19.

The infant mortality is the proportion of deaths under one year to 1,000 registered births, and not to the population.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

The Birth Rate for 1915 is 26·6, that for 1914 was 26·91, showing a decreased rate of 3·2 compared with the mean for 10 years, 1904-1913.

The nett Death Rate for 1915 is 15·32, that for 1914 was 12·48, thus showing an increased rate of 2·84 for 1915 and a decreased rate of ·28 compared with the mean for 10 years, 1904-1913.

The Zymotic Death Rate for 1915 is 3·18, that for 1914 was 0·96, thus showing an increased rate of 2·22 for 1915 and an increased rate of ·85 compared with the mean for 10 years.

The increase in both the nett Death Rate and the Zymotic Death Rate is due almost entirely to the number of deaths from Measles in 1915. In 1914 no deaths from Measles were certified.

The Infant Mortality for 1915 is 119, that for 1914 was 115, thus showing an increase of 4 for 1915 and a decrease of 21 compared with the mean for 10 years.

COMPARISON WITH COUNTY.

The Birth Rate for 1915 is 2·85 above the average for the whole of the Administrative County of Lancashire for the 10 years, 1904-1913, and 0·7 above that for England and Wales for the same period.

The Death Rate for 1915 is 1·04 above the average for the County for 10 years, and 1·62 above the average for England and Wales for the same period.

The Zymotic Rate is 1·73 above the average for the County.

The Infant Mortality is 9 below the average for the County, and ·5 below the average for England and Wales for 10 years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Infectious Diseases notified during the year numbered 81, compared with 82 in 1914 and 52 in 1913.

23 occurring in persons under 5 years.
58 „ „ over 5 years.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Six cases were notified : 4 in Lowton, 1 in Astley, and 1 in Culcheth. All were in persons over five years of age. 4 cases were removed to the Sanatorium.

The houses were visited and the sanitary defects remedied. These included defective drains and insufficient ventilation.

Death—1 in Lowton.

SMALLPOX.

The district has been free from this disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

Thirty-one cases were notified : 13 occurring in persons under 5 years of age, 18 occurring in persons over 5 years of age. 15 in Lowton, 3 in Kenyon, 10 in Astley, and 3 in Culcheth. 13 were removed to the Sanatorium. Death, 1—in Lowton.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANEOUS CROUP.

Six cases were notified. All occurred in persons over 5 years of age. 4 in Lowton, 1 in Astley, and 1 in Culcheth. Deaths, 3—all in Lowton.

ERYSIPELAS.

Two cases notified ; both in persons over 5 years. 1 in Lowton, and 1 in Culcheth. Death, 1—in Lowton.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Four cases were notified, all occurring in infants under 1 year of age. 3 in Astley, 1 in Culcheth.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

One case was notified in Lowton, and this died.

MEASLES.

Measles was prevalent in the district in the early part of the year and necessitated the closing of the various schools.

The total number of deaths attributed to this disease and its complications was 21, made up of 5 deaths under one year of age, 8 between one and two years, 5 between two and five years, and 3 between five and fifteen years. 13 occurred in Lowton, 7 in Astley, and 1 in Culcheth.

DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

LOWTON. 25.

Typhoid Fever, 4; Scarlet Fever, 15; Diphtheria 4, Erysipelas, 1; Puerperal Fever, 1. Removed to Sanatorium: Typhoid, 3; Scarlet, 7.

KENYON. 3.

Scarlet Fever, 3. None removed to Sanatorium.

ASTLEY. 15.

Typhoid Fever, 1; Scarlet Fever, 10; Diphtheria, 1; Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 3. Removed to Sanatorium: Typhoid, 1; Scarlet Fever, 5; Diphtheria, 1.

CULCHETH. 7.

Typhoid Fever, 1; Scarlet Fever, 3; Diphtheria, 1; Erysipelas, 1; Ophthalmia, 1. Removed to Sanatorium: Typhoid, 1; and to Ladywell Sanatorium: Scarlet, 1.

TUBERCULOSIS.

(Including Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary).

Thirty-one cases were notified. Males, 12 ; Females, 19.
Distribution :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.
Lowton	3	...	0
Kenyon	0	...	0
Astley	7	...	2
Culcheth	7	...	12
	—		—
	17		14

The number in Culcheth includes 9 from the Cottage Homes.

PHTHISIS.

All cases were visited, and instructions given as to the necessary precautions to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease. Four cases were removed to Tuberculosis Sanatoria at Bull Hill, Darwen, and Shelf, Halifax. The houses were disinfected afterwards.

Nine deaths occurred from Phthisis, including 1 at Cottage Homes. Lowton, 3 ; Astley, 4 ; Culcheth, 2.

NON-PULMONARY.

TUBERCULOUS MENINGITIS caused 5 deaths.

Astley, 1 ; Culcheth, 4.

Other Tuberculous Diseases caused 3 deaths. All in Culcheth.

CANCER.

Deaths 6. Lowton, 2 ; Astley, 3 ; Culcheth, 0 ; Kenyon, 1.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

BRONCHITIS caused 12 deaths.

Lowton, 2 ; Kenyon, 1 ; Astley, 2 ; Culcheth, 7.

PNEUMONIA caused 14 deaths (including 3 under 1 year of age).

Lowton, 4 ; Astley, 5 ; Culcheth, 5.

DIARRHŒA caused 6 deaths, all in infants under 1 year.

Lowton, 3 ; Astley, 3 ; Culcheth, 1.

CONGENITAL DEBILITY and PREMATURE BIRTH

caused 7 deaths.

Lowton, 5 ; Astley, 1 ; Culcheth, 1.

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE caused 5 deaths.

Lowton, 2 ; Astley, 3 ; Culcheth, 0.

SUICIDE. 1 death, belonging to Culcheth.

INQUESTS were held in 6 cases.

Lowton, 1 ; Astley, 5.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

6 deaths in Lowton and 1 in Culcheth were uncertified.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water supply is the same as in the previous year.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The same as in the previous year.

HOUSING.

The number of houses erected during the year are as under :
Astley, 38 ; Culcheth, 4 ; Kenyon, 0 ; Lowton, 5 ; Total, 47.

CLOSET · ACCOMMODATION.

Approximate number of Pail Closets	...	...	75
„ „ Duckets Closets	...	...	2
„ „ Water Closets...	...	...	178
„ „ Privies and Ashpits	...	...	1764

The number of water closets is increased by 42.

REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The unsatisfactory system still exists of the individual tenants making arrangements for the emptying and removal of the contents of the privies.

If the Council undertook this work, it could be done at regular intervals and more frequently, and this would, no doubt, conduce to an improvement in the health of the district.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF WORK UNDER THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	386
„ „ unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ closed without an order	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ since remedied	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ remaining	...	...	...	...	0
Representations made as to Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	0
Closing Orders made...	...	...	...	...	0
Dwellings in which defects were remedied	...	...	...	...	164
Dwelling-houses remaining	...	...	...	...	15

TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSES INSPECTED AND DEFECTS FOUND.

Defects.				No. of Defects.	No. Remedied.	No. Re- maining.
1.	Water supply	...	...	2	2	—
2.	Closet accommodation	...	...	22	20	2
3.	Drainage	...	...	40	39	1
4.	Light, circulation of air, dampness and Cleanliness...	...	...	103	95	8
5.	Paving and drainage of yards	...	...	12	12	—
6.	Disposal of refuse	...	...	70	64	6
7.	Rooms unfit	...	...	4	4	0
8.	Other defects	...	...	37	33	4
Totals				290	269	21

FOOD SUPPLY, &c.

The following samples of food have been taken for analysis :

Lowton : Milk, 5.

Astley : Milk, 7.

These have been reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

The milk supply has been satisfactory.

The dairies, on the whole, are satisfactory.

Defects of ventilation and light in the cowsheds were pointed out and remedied. Other defects were, want of lime-washing, drainage, and repairs. Total 12. All remedied.

BAKEHOUSES.

Only one defect was found as regards drainage, and this was remedied.

LODGING-HOUSES.

Four defects were found, overcrowding, unregistered, and lime-washing, and these were remedied.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Two defects, viz., defective drains and lime-washing, which were remedied.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Eight defects were found relating to cleanliness and defective sanitary accommodation, and these were remedied.

50 Inspections were made and 8 informal notices served.

SCHOOLS.

All the schools in the district have been visited and attention called to a few minor defects.

The privies connected with the schools are well constructed, and, on the whole, are kept in a sanitary condition.

The attention of the caretakers was called to the necessity, from a health point of view, of keeping them as dry as possible, of scattering over the contents dry ashes regularly and frequently, and of burning (when possible) all refuse from the schools instead of depositing it in the privy.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The following specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Manchester :—

Two from suspected cases of Typhoid Fever. Both gave a positive result.

One from suspected Diphtheria. Result, negative.

One from suspected Cerebro Spinal Meningitis. Result, negative.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

This Act came into force on September 1st, and notifications from the medical men and midwives are coming in fairly satisfactorily. No visitor has yet been appointed under the Act.

On receipt of a notice of birth a printed card of advice on the feeding and rearing of infants is posted to the mother.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. TONG,

Medical Officer of Health.

LEIGH RURAL

REPORT OF THE WORK PERFORMED BY THE INSPECTOR OF

Description of Work Performed.							No.
No. of Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1448
„ Inspections made under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1919
„ Statutory Notices served	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	21
„ Informal Notices	do	do.	do.	do.	...	...	148
„ Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses under Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Inspections of Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
„ Statutory Notices served under Factories, Workshops, Bakehouses and Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	8
„ Lodging-houses under Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ Inspections of Lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
„ Statutory Notices served on Lodging-house Keepers	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	4
„ Dairies and Cowsheds under Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
„ Inspections made under the Dairies and Cowsheds' Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
„ Statutory Notices served on Occupiers of Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	12
„ Canal Boats Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
„ Statutory Notices served under Canal Boats' Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ Informal Notices	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	1
„ Travelling Vans Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Statutory Notices served on Occupiers of Travelling Vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Informal Notices	do.	do	do.	do.	...	...	1
„ Infectious Diseases Reported	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
„ Infectious Diseases Removed to Sanatoriums	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
„ New Houses Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Total Number of Inspections made during the year 1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	2360
„ Statutory Notices served	do.	do.	do.	do.	...	...	26
„ Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	174

Risley, Culcheth,
December 31st, 1915.

DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NUISANCES DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1915.

Description of Nuisances Dealt With.				No.	Abated Remaining			
Drains Made, Cleansed, etc.	...	...	...	47	...	45	...	2
Sink-Pipes Connected or Defective	...	...	...	10	...	10	...	0
Old Privies and Ashpits Removed	...	...	...	5	...	5	...	0
New Privies and Ashpits Built	...	...	...	4	...	4	...	0
Privies or Ashpits Out of Repair, etc.	...	...	...	22	...	20	...	2
Houses Damp, Out of Repair, etc.	...	...	...	95	...	88	...	7
Houses or Premises in a Dirty State	...	...	...	13	...	13	...	0
Houses Overcrowded...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	0
Houses Demolished without an Order	...	...	...	0	...	0	...	0
Houses Closed without an Order	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	0
Yard Pavements Defective or Out of Repair	...	...	...	12	...	12	...	0
Wells Defective or Out of Repair	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	0
Animals or Poultry kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	3	...	3	...	0
Buildings Dangerous	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	1
Other Nuisances and Accumulations	...	...	...	84	...	71	...	13
Nuisances remaining from 1912	...	...	...	22	...	22	...	0
Total Number of Nuisances Notified during 1914...				298		273		25
Approximate No. of Pail Closets	...	...	...	75				
do. Ducket Closets	...	...	...	2				
do. Water Closets	...	...	...	178				
do. Privies with Ashpits	...	...	...	1760				

J. MONKS,
Inspector of Nuisances.

TABLE I.
VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1915 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non- residents registered in the District.	of Resi- dents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1910	9330	269	...	28.33	133	14.25	...	13	37	137	146	15.64
1911	10077	267	..	26.49	130	12.9	...	20	46	172	150	14.88
1912	10140	284	...	28.08	124	12.22	2	13	34	119	135	13.31
1913	10240	273	...	26.75	158	15.43	1	19	42	153	175	17.09
1914	10330	275	278	26.91	120	11.61	3	12	32	115	129	12.48
1915	10375	275	276	26.60	146	14.07	5	18	33	119	159	15.32

Area of District in acres (land and inland water ...	11568	} At Census, 1911.
Total population at all ages—10077.	Number of inhabited houses—No Returns.	
Average number of persons per house—	No Returns.	

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1915.
LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY. (e.g. Parish or Ward of the District.)				TOTAL CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1 Lowton.	2 Kenyon.	3 Astley.	4 Culcheth.	
		Under 1.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.						65 and upw'ds
Small-pox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup) ...	6	...	...	4	2	...	...	4	...	1	1	1
Erysipelas ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...
Scarlet fever ...	31	1	12	17	1	...	...	15	3	10	3	13
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ...	6	...	...	2	3	...	1	4	...	1	1	4
Relapsing fever (R) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever (C) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis..	17	...	1	4	5	3	4	3	...	7	7	4
Other forms of do.	14	...	5	8	...	1	...	...	...	2	12	...
Totals ...	81	5	18	35	11	5	6	28	3	24	26	22

Isolation Hospital or Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c. :—Joint Hospital, Leigh Borough, Leigh Rural, Atherton, Tyldesley, and Golborne.
Cases of Tuberculosis sent to Bull Hill Sanatorium, Darwen, and to Shelf Sanatorium, Halifax.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1915.
NAME OF DISTRICT—LEIGH RURAL.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the Subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents or "Non-Residents" in Institutions" in the District.
	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and und'r 2 yrs.	2 and und'r 5 yrs.	5 and und'r 15 yrs.	15 and und'r 25 yrs.	25 and und'r 45 yrs.	45 and und'r 65 yrs.	65 and up-wards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes { Certified (c) ...	152	28	15	14	12	4	27	22	30	...
{ Uncertified ...	7	5	...	...	1	...	..	1	...	...
1—Enteric Fever	1	...	..	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
2—Small Pox. ... ..	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
3—Meas'es	21	5	8	5	3	...	...	...	...	...
4—Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—Whooping Cough... ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6—Diphtheria and Croup ...	3	...	...	1	2	..	..	...	...	...
7—Influenza	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
8—Erysipelas	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9—Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	9	...	...	...	1	1	4	3	...	1
10—Tuberculosis Meningitis...	5	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...
11—Other Tuberculosis Diseases	3	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
12—Cancer, malignant disease	6	...	...	..	...	...	...	5	1	...
13—Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14—Meningitis	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
15—Organic Heart Disease ...	10	1	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	...
16—Bronchitis	12	3	1	...	...	...	...	3	5	...
17—Pneumonia (all forms) ...	14	3	3	1	2	...	3	...	2	...
18—Other diseases of respira- tory organs	6	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	3	..
19—Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21—Cirrhosis of Liver... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	..	...
21a—Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22—Nephritis and Bright's Disease	1	...	...	...	..	...	1	...	...	...
23—Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
24—Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy and Par- turation	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
25—Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	7	7	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
26—Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	5	...	...	1	2	...	1	1	...	...
27—Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
28—Other Defined Diseases ...	22	1	1	...	...	1	8	1	10	...
29—Diseases ill-defined or un- known	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
TOTALS	159	33	15	14	13	4	27	23	30	

TABLE IV.

LEIGH RURAL DISTRICT.—INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
	Uncertified	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	5
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	5

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Whooping Cough.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Diphtheria & Cr'up	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Meningitis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Abdominal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Other Tuberculous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Meningitis (<i>not</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

<i>Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Convulsions	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3

Pneumonia (all	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3

forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Diarrhœa...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

Enteritis	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	5

Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Suffocation,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

overlying...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Injury at birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Congenital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Malformations	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1

Premature birth	...	2	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	3

Atrophy, Debility	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

and Marasmus...	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3

Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1

TOTALS		11	1	1	1	14	5	2	4	8	33

Nett Births in the year :—Legitimate, 271 ; Illegitimate, 5.
 Nett Deaths in the year :—Legitimate, 31 ; Illegitimate, 2.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1915 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF LEIGH

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.			
Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	12	4	...
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	38	4	...
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	...	...	...
Total	50	8	

2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	3	3	...	...
Want of ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	1	1	...	...
Sanitary { insufficient ... ..	...	...	...	...
Accommodat'n { unsuitable or defective... ..	4	4	...	...
{ not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakeh'se	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other offences ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total	8	8		

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.										Number.
Bakehouses .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Joiners and Builders .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wheelwrights .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Blacksmiths ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Various ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Total number of workshops on Register										21

(Signed) L. TONG,
Medical Officer of Health.

March, 1916.